



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 21, 1880.

To-morrow will be the anniversary of Washington's birthday—a day that should be commemorated joyously throughout the whole country, and in no State more so than in Virginia, and in no city more so than in Alexandria, the market town of the great man, and the ancestors of whose citizens were his familiar friends and acquaintances. In former years the 22d was, after Christmas, Alexandria's chief holiday, but the times are so sadly out of joint, the people of the city are so broken spirited, and the ideas, principles and institutions of the country were so altered by the war, that since then, save with one or two exceptions, the day has been allowed to pass without much special observance.

The Senate of Virginia was to have passed the repudiators' bill to-day. That bill will now go to the House of Delegates, by which it will also, doubtless be passed, after such opposition as the conservatives can make, though why it should, with as many republicans as there are in that House, is hard to tell. A chief plank in all the platforms of the republican party is a strict recognition and observance of pecuniary obligations, and to that is owing much of their success, and why, now in Virginia alone, they should do so, is hard to tell. A chief plank in all the platforms of the republican party is a strict recognition and observance of pecuniary obligations, and to that is owing much of their success, and why, now in Virginia alone, they should do so, is hard to tell. A chief plank in all the platforms of the republican party is a strict recognition and observance of pecuniary obligations, and to that is owing much of their success, and why, now in Virginia alone, they should do so, is hard to tell.

When the bill granting a charter to the Baltimore, Cincinnati and Western railroad, which has already passed the Virginia State Senate, shall reach the House of Delegates, we hope the members of that body may have enough regard for the interest of Virginia's border city to insist upon an amendment making the road pass through Alexandria. This city is now heavily handicapped by the debts she has incurred from subscriptions to railroads that have redounded to the interests of other parts of the State, and it would be ungenerous of the General Assembly to specially exclude her from the benefits of a road that is to pass so near her limits. The railroad system of Virginia seems to be adapted to the detriment of her own and to the advancement of the interests of other States, but we trust that it may not be pushed to such a ridiculous and injurious extent as would be apparent by granting a charter to a company to build a railroad through any portion of the northern section of the State, to avoid a Virginia city excluded from any of its resulting benefits.

If the result of an election in one small county of Virginia is the cause of the recent loss in Virginia bonds, how much higher will they rise when the people of all the counties in the State have a chance to express their opinion of the men who are now trying to ruin the State's credit, and how can the repudiators hope for the success of their efforts to destroy the value of Virginia coupons?

Scribner's Magazine for March has been received from its publishers, in New York. Among its contents are: The Tule Club Affair; Louisiana; Notes of a Walker; The Grandissime; Extracts from the Journal of Henry J. Raymond; Two Views of Napoleon; Peter the Great; The Comte de Noe; Success with Small Fruits; Over Sunday in New Sharon; and The Wards of the Government, and a full editorial department.

Littell's Living Age for February 21 has been received from its publishers, in Boston. Among its contents is a continuation of the story of Adam and Eve, by the author of Dorothy Fox, from advance sheets.

The February number of the Musical Herald, has been received from its publishers, in Boston. Its table of contents, as its name implies, is especially intended for musical people.

"Columbia's Noble Men," dedicated to James Gordon Bennett and other generous Americans who have contributed to the Irish Relief Fund, a new song, just out, has been received from the New York Music Publishing Company.

We are indebted to James S. Gregory, esq., registrar of Kilmacnock, Scotland, for a copy of his report made to the town council of that parish.

VIRGINIA MINERALS.—We are reliably informed that the Dover Iron Company (which owns about nine hundred acres of rich mineral land, formerly bought by Gen. Stono of Capt. J. J. Dillard, some years ago,) has commenced a railroad from Riverside to these lands, some three miles, to strike the Virginia Midland R. R. at some point—most probably Amherst Courthouse. This road is full gauge with the Midland road. Mr. W. C. Morecare, of Richmond, the engineer, and J. T. Jones, manager, are on the ground—the survey is going on, and the work of clearing the track begun. The President of the Dover Company, T. M. Walcott, of New York, is directing the road, and the hands at work will, it is said, be increased to one hundred and fifty this week. This is business.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

Mr. C. G. Hamilton, the lately elected judge of Prince William county has qualified.

The Potomac Baptist Association will meet at Manassas on Friday night next, the 27th inst.

Collections were taken up last Sunday in the Episcopal churches at Brentsville and Manassas for the relief of the famine sufferers in Ireland.

The town Council of Culpeper C. H., have adopted means for a stricter quarantine of the district in that place infected with small pox.

An organized band of thieves near Hillsborough, in Loudoun county, has been broken up and all three of the band lodged in jail at Leesburg.

Parties engaged in prospecting for iron ore in Clarke county are still at work. Deposits in paying quantities have been found on several farms.

A colored man living near Front Royal, in Warren county, lost three children from fear or fever last week. The disease appeared in a malignant form.

From all we can learn, says the Piedmont Virginian, seed oats will be very scarce in Orange county. Numerous inquiries are being made among the farmers.

Dr. John L. Buchanan has accepted the position of president of the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College at Blacksburg, to which he was some time since elected.

Reley Hopkins, colored, died in Waterford, Loudoun county, last Sunday night, at the advanced age, according to the most reliable data, of one hundred and six years.

Col. Samuel A. Swann former member of the House of Delegates and subsequently superintendent of the penitentiary, died suddenly at Louisa Court House, yesterday, from an attack of paralysis. He had gone to Louisa to attend the marriage of a relation.

Diphtheria has made its appearance in two portions of Prince William county, viz: Occoquan and the surrounding country and in the neighborhood of Brentsville. The Manassas Gazette understands that in the lower portion of the county the disease is of a most malignant type and that several deaths have ensued therefrom.

The rate of taxation in Clarke county, for 1880, has been fixed at 52 1/2 cents on the \$100 (county taxes and 40 cents for State tax—total \$1.02) on the \$100. In addition to the above, a levy of 10 cents has been made in Chapel and Battletown districts for district school purposes, and of 2 cents in Greenway and Long March districts for same purposes. The aggregate of taxes in Chapel and Battletown districts will amount to \$1.12, and in Greenway and Long March, \$1.05 1/2.

On Tuesday night some thieves broke into the postoffice at Fishersville, Augusta county, but did not succeed in securing any valuable plunder as the postmaster, Samuel Hayes, keeps his stamps, &c., at his house, some distance from the postoffice. The thieves got a number of private letters, which they opened and read in rear of Mr. Gully's store, by the light from his office window, where they were found next morning. No one has been arrested yet. Last Thursday night some thieves broke into the Chesapeake & Ohio depot at the same place. Whilst Mr. T. D. Loyall, agent, was out of the office about fifteen minutes, the thieves effected an entrance by cutting out a pane of glass and removing the fastenings on the side. They attempted to prize open the desk which contained the company's funds, about fifty dollars, but were forced off by the agent returning. No clue to the perpetrators.

Both Houses of Congress adjourned yesterday (Monday).

A fire on Broadway, New York, yesterday, destroyed property valued at \$1,000,000. Two firemen lost their lives.

The New York Herald reports that one of the committee to distribute funds for the relief of the Irish sufferers on account of the conditions he imposes.

A woman was found at the Lexington market, Baltimore, yesterday, driven insane by the death of her husband. Poor creature, if she had only reflected how much better off he was!

The contract for the building of another fifty miles of the Texas and Pacific railroad extending west of Weatherford, Texas, was let at St. Louis Thursday.

The large wooden bridge on the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad, near Chattanooga, Tenn., was burned yesterday. Passengers to and from New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville have to be transferred in boats.

Mr. Bradstreet, whose death was announced in yesterday's Gazette, leaves a large family and a good estate. His son, Mr. George A. Bradstreet, married a sister of Mrs. Speaker Randall and Mr. Governor Swann.

In the U. S. Senate yesterday an effort was made to take up and pass House bill admitting free of duties certain contributions from abroad in aid of colored refugees in Kansas, but pending session, the Senate adjourned. In the House the Senate bill authorizing the designation of a United States vessel to carry, free of charge, contributions for the relief of the suffering poor of Ireland was passed.

Prof. Neelandskjöld and party arrived at Rome yesterday.

An alliance between Peru and Bolivia has been broken off.

The independence of Rumania has been recognized by European governments.

Ten persons are dying daily from yellow fever in Rio Janeiro.

The Mission House Relief Committee has received \$30,000, and expended \$19,000.

Mr. Plimmet, M. P., has apologized for placarding members who obstructed his grain bill.

The victims of the dynamite explosion in the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg, were buried yesterday.

According to the new Cuban budget, taxes on uncultivated rural property will take the place of the poll tax.

In Paris it is believed England and Russia have agreed to allow Persia to occupy Herat, and thus establish an Asiatic zone libre between them.

Prof. Maskelyne, the highest living authority on the subject, says Mr. Hannay, of Glasgow, has succeeded in producing diamonds artificially.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 21, 1880.

Neither house of Congress was in session to-day, both having adjourned yesterday until Monday. The Capitol therefore presented a rather listless appearance, the only evidence of activity apparent about it being exhibited by the newspaper men on their rounds to the few committee rooms that were open.

Quite a large party, including Congressman John Goode, of Virginia, left this morning for Carlisle, Pa., to visit the Indian school at that place.

The conference committee of the House and Senate Pension Committee on the bill relating to granting arrears of pensions by special act, of which Senator Withers is chairman, met this morning, but postponed action on that bill until next week.

A sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Territories met this morning and examined Colonel M. D. Ball, United States Collector at Sitka, in reference to the organization of a form of government for Alaska.

The Senate Committee on Railroads was engaged to-day in considering the bill for granting an extension of time for the completion of the Northern Pacific railroad.

Mr. Voorhees witnesses before the Senate exodus committee will close their testimony to-day, and Mr. Winston's come upon the stand. The latter is expected to equal the famous Louisiana witnesses in their absolute disregard of the ninth commandment.

The receipts at the Treasury to-day from internal revenue amounted to \$303,123; from customs \$817,766. The amount of U. S. bonds now deposited as security for national bank notes is \$72,762,900; the amount deposited during the week ending to-day as security for such notes was \$1,810,300; the amount withdrawn \$2,294,000. The amount of national bank notes received for redemption for the week ending to-day was \$400,000; for the corresponding week last year \$3,493,000; for to-day \$112,000.

Senator Vance has been invited by the Hebrews in this city to deliver his famous lecture on the lost tribes of Israel, and has accepted the invitation.

Mr. Cannon, of Petersburg, is in the city. He says that General Mahone's whole previous life would indicate that when he takes his seat in the Senate it will be as a democrat, but there is no telling what may happen before March 1881.

No appointments have yet been made in place of Messrs. Bratton and Bolling, who have been rejected as supervisors of census in Virginia. Messrs. Mike Glennan and Horace Withers are being pressed for the vacancies, but with not very bright hopes of success, as the indication is that the names of two republicans will be sent in. The Virginia delegation, however, have determined that both the positions shall not be given to republicans, but that one of them at least shall go to a conservative.

Lively fights are now in progress in the executive sessions of the Senate over the confirmation of census supervisors, such sessions as that of Thursday lasting until late in the evening. All but two or three of the original appointments have, however, been acted on.

The democrats are still facilitating themselves upon the victory they achieved in the House Thursday in retaining the rule which allows riders to appropriation bills when they reduce appropriations. It is doubtful, however, if this rule will not be injuriously upon the party which has secured its retention.

Mr. Priest, of Missouri, and Mr. Wilson, of Maine, are two more members of the national democratic committee who have reached the city to attend the meeting of that committee on Monday next. A strong delegation from Cincinnati are here to induce the committee to select that city for the place of meeting of the national convention. A delegation from Chicago arrived last night to urge the advantages of that city for the same purpose. New Yorkers are doing their best to make the committee select Saratoga for the same purpose.

The indications now seem to be in favor of Senator Coke, of Texas, will act as proxy for the party in his State at the meeting of the committee. It seems now as though there was to be a fight in Congress over Mr. Nelson's bill, the gist of which is to give Congress the control over the Southern Pacific Railroad as to freight and fare, as well as over all other railroads traversing territories. Mr. Huntington, who has been opposing the bill, has returned to New York, but his place in the lobby, it is understood, will be supplied by Mr. Gould. It is doubtful whether the bill will pass.

Mr. Louis Shade, editor of the Washington Sentinel and one of the counsel in Mrs. Surber's case, has been invited to deliver a speech before the legislature here to Richmond. He is understood to be accepting it, but if he does will take the ground that the negroes first excluded European immigration from the State, and that the attempted introduction of puritanism and sumptuary laws is working to the same end.

Miss Lizzie Holcomb, formerly of Alexandria, but now of this city, who sustained such serious injuries by a fall from a fruit tree a year and a half ago, that it was supposed she was lame for life, has had her hip joint put in place by the famous woman, who, being prosecuted in Italy as a sorcerer, sought an asylum in this country, and is now an inmate of the House of General Woodford, in New York. Miss Holcomb's cure is said to be complete.

The Charles E. Daley, who has recently been appointed receiver of public moneys at Florence, Arizona, hails from Falls Church, Fairfax county, Va.

Col. Edward Daniels, of Fairfax county, Va., a member of the Asses Commission to inspect the machinery of the U. S., has just returned from Philadelphia where the commission made its first inspection. The conditions of the machinery are said to be satisfactory. The wages paid to one fifty-third of the legal allowance. The coins are in all cases up to standard, a slight overplus generally, but not sufficient to exceed the largest limit. The progressive perfection of machinery is surprising. A single machine sorts automatically in a second, and successively leaves the die, weighs each, and places them in their respective receptacles of light, standard and heavy coin, and this, too, at the rate of sixty to a minute. There are nine members of the commission, of whom two, Col. Daniels and Judge Buckley, of Alabama, are from the South.

WHAT ROUSE SILVER CITY.—The following item appeared in the Lyon County Times of Saturday morning:

"Silver City will not be hurt by the new railroad; nor will it be benefited. A graveyard cannot be affected by a railway two miles away."

Shortly before noon it was evident to the most casual observer that some unusual excitement was afoot among the citizens of Silver. At 12:20 a day in the suit, Mr. Picotte, the town editor, was observed to climb out of the back window, bare headed, and in a shirt-sleeves. He turned his steps towards Gold Hill and progressed at the rate of ten miles per hour. The entire population, accompanied by all the dogs, followed Mr. Picotte. It took him but a few minutes to pass through Gold Hill and reach the foot of the mountain. He was just reaching the foot of the mountain when a single machine gun shot automatically in a second, and successively leaves the die, weighs each, and places them in their respective receptacles of light, standard and heavy coin, and this, too, at the rate of sixty to a minute. There are nine members of the commission, of whom two, Col. Daniels and Judge Buckley, of Alabama, are from the South.

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Letters from Richmond.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.) RICHMOND, VA., February 19th, 1880.

The readjusters are against Fulkerson and Paul is increasing, that is the iron in certain quarters. But both men have some following, and will probably be undeterred by any threats which may come from the Mahone quarter. To-day Senator Cephas Davis, the colored brother who "felt when he met a readjuster he met his equal," took a hand in the quarrel.

Of course there is much surprise at the decision of the Court of Appeals to-day in the Mahone county judgeship case. No men are more surprised than the members of the legal fraternity, who, hearing the judges questions and the arguments of counsel, thought the decision would be the other way. And yet, despite the fact that the matter has gone against them, I have heard no members of the conservative party speak disrespectfully of the court. And, in this respect, the contrast between this party and members of the so-called readjuster party is striking, for not only last night were threats made by certain of the mahogani that in the event of the court going against them, they would pass a joint resolution unseating the judges; but one was heard to remark to-day that had the opinion of the Court of Appeals been different to-day this session of the legislature would have been a lengthy one. Their purpose was to drag down and debate the highest judicial bench in the land, and fill the vacant places with willing suppleverables.

Many of the Mahone ring in the Legislature are very careful about expressing themselves on the presidential question. Of course it is very well understood that there is in both houses a certain element which, to all intents and purposes, is owned by Mahone, as a man would own a box of bludgeons or a pair of shoes. At the wink of the eye of the big bat (One they shout his way, and in all his perfections crowd to his will. In that crowd, of course, there will be found those who favor Mahone's presidential election scheme. And yet they are faint of heart at its prospect.

In the House the only man who expresses himself in favor of Tillen is Edwards, of Portsmouth. Bayard has a considerable following. Polinder has been put in the same cell in the penitentiary with George R. Shiner, of Alexandria. The loan of Corbin can be seen in Hollywood from the upper tier of cells in the penitentiary.

The proposed amendment offered by Fulkerson to readjusters' debt bill simply means that the creditors shall have no interest at all on the debt. That is the plain English of it. Mahone never has anything to say on the debt question, and it is understood never attends the caucus.

Indeed it seems doubtful whether the caucus will ever meet again. That body finds it very difficult to get even a quorum.

It is feared that City Sergeant Lee, who broke his arm in his chase after Rascals, will have to lose it.

Richmond, Feb. 20.

The funeral to-day of the late Dr. Jeter was the largest known in Richmond since that of Bishop McMillan. The church as soon as it was opened was packed to suffocation. Dr. Jeter was loved by the people of Richmond of all denominations.

Mr. Paul to-day had the floor on the Riddleberger debt bill. It was finally laid over until to-morrow. It seems almost impossible for the members of the readjuster party to agree on this bill. Certainly they are bitterly decided upon the subject. Several mutual friends have tried in vain to settle the differences between Paul and Fulkerson on one side and Riddleberger on the other.

A rumor was received here this morning of the death of Col. Samuel A. Swann, late superintendent of the penitentiary. To-night another rumor was received to the effect that he was not yet dead, but that he was very low. I am inclined to believe that the first rumor is true. There were few men in Virginia more popular than Col. Swann—that is, who had more real friends. While superintendent of the penitentiary he was noted for the solid discipline with which he managed that institution. At the same time he was entirely just in all his dealings. He was turned out of office by the readjusters, because he was in favor of the honest payment of the State's debts. There was nothing cringing or time-serving about him. When the Legislature assembled, and he heard that the office seeking gang wanted to turn him out of office he held them at bay, and asking nothing at their hands, and conscious of duty well performed, succeeded in principle, he left the office, as every good officer should leave an office, with no stain on his name, so flaw in his administration. It was the fond hope of the friends of this good and tried Virginian and officer that he might live to go back (along with other faithful servants of the State) into the office from which he had been thrust for no cause save that he performed his duties faithfully.

Legislative.

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, February 21, 1880.—In the Senate yesterday the bill to amend the Code in relation to the carrying of revolvers and other concealed weapons was considered, but passed by.

The bill for the relief of the securities of Nathan G. Taliaferro, late general agent of the penitentiary, was considered but no action taken, and the remainder of the session occupied in the discussion of the debt question.

In the House of Delegates, a bill was introduced by Mr. Fair prescribing certain duties and liabilities of commissioners of the revenue. An adverse report was made upon the bill concerning fees of county treasurers.

The bill to amend the act prescribing the duties, powers, liabilities and compensation of certain county officers, was favorably reported upon.

Bills were passed to amend the Code in relation to the Auditor's power to adjust old claims; and giving the consent of this State to the acquisition by the Government of the United States of so much land as may be necessary for a public building in the city of Danville.

The bill authorizing the purchasers of the Washington City, Virginia Midland and Great Southern Railroad Company to issue common and preferred stock for certain purposes was passed.

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Letter from Fairfax.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.) FAIRFAX C. H., Feb. 20.—Judge Sangster adjourned his court to the court in course last afternoon. The jury in the case of the Commonwealth against Minor being unable to agree was discharged. This is the second hearing in this case, the verdict of a jury at the former trial having been set aside by Judge Keith for an informality in the judgment rendered on the verdict. These frequent trials are a burden to the county and state, as well as an annoyance to the accused, to say nothing of the expense to him.

There was not much, if any, business of interest to the general public done at this term of our county court, except the case above.

Judge Sangster has not yet qualified under his new commission, probably waiting the issue of the case in the Court of Appeals touching election of county judges since the first of January last.

Under orders from the General Commanding, and after a close, but secret contest, an effort was made on Monday last to organize a readjuster club or party, but, owing to the kicking of some of the supposed faithful, the organization was adjourned until next court, when, it is supposed, the Lieutenant General will be on hand to apply the lash.

It is currently rumored that the two prominent candidates for Congress from this county before the readjuster convention have come to terms, the one developing the lesser strength in the first ballot, to withdraw and throw his influence and vote to the other.

Your readers are looking with excited interest for replies from "Independence," and W. W. Skinner, to the card of R. R. Parr, esq., giving to each the lie in mild language.

QUAD.

The Way the Czar Lives.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—A London special gives the following from the Standard's Berlin correspondent: